

VPI96-01 CIP2 DIV3

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned  
Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned  
Applicants : Mark J. Batchelor, et al.  
Application No. : Not Yet Assigned  
Confirmation No. : Not Yet Assigned  
Filed : Concurrently Herewith  
For : INHIBITORS OF INTERLEUKIN-1 $\beta$  CONVERTING  
ENZYME

New York, New York  
January 28, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the issuance of the first Office Action in the above-identified application, kindly amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as set forth in Appendix 1.

EXPRESS MAIL  
ET799720747US